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NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEAD™

AFTERMATH #11

AVATAR™

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"THAT'S IT, YOU DUMB FUCKS, FORM A LINE..."

...LIKE DUCKS IN A SHOOTING GALLERY.

MAN! WILL YOU LOOK AT HIM GO?

HE'S LOVING IT.

THAT GUY IS EX-MILITARY. HAS TO BE. I SEEN VETS LIKE HIM BEFORE.

THEY GET THE TASTE FOR KILLING AND CAN'T SHAKE IT.

HEY! COME BACK HERE!

I WANNA WATCH THE MAN. HE'S COOL!

NO. HE'S NOT COOL. HE'S VERY UNCOOL.

WELL HE'S SAVING KARMA AND JESTER AND THE OTHERS.

THE RESTLESS WOULD BE EATING THEM BY NOW.

HE'S GOT A POINT. WE WEREN'T DOING SO WELL BEFORE MR. KILLING MACHINE SHOWED UP.

WE'RE LUCKY WE ONLY LOST GANDALF.

YOU MIND GIVING ME A HAND HERE? YOU STAND AROUND WATCHING MUCH LONGER, I'M GONNA START SELLING TICKETS.

ALL RIGHT. LET'S HELP HIM MOP UP.

GANDALF'S GETTING UP. IS HE GOING TO BE OKAY?

GRRRNNFFF?

I'LL DO IT.

WUK!

LET'S SEE IF WE CAN GET THIS HEAP MOVING AGAIN.

ANY CHANCE OF FIXING HER UP?

MAYBE. I'LL NEED A COUPLE OF HOURS.

I'LL CHECK THE ROAD FOR GHOULS. WE'RE IN A BLIND SPOT HERE AND I DON'T WANT ANY SURPRISES.

SHIT ON A FUCKING STICK!

LAS VEGAS 4.5 MILES

MWUURRRGH

FORGET THE BUS! WE'RE MOVING OUT!

THERE'S HALF THE POPULATION OF VEGAS HEADING THIS WAY AND EVERY ONE OF THEM DEADER THAN KANSAS ROAD KILL.

I CAN TAKE A COUPLE OF YOU IN THE TRUCK. THE REST OF YOU, GET ON THE OTHER BUS AND FOLLOW ME.

FOLLOW YOU *WHERE* EXACTLY?

THERE'S A MILITARY BASE NEAR HERE. IT'S OFF THE MAIN HIGHWAY AND IT ISN'T SIGNPOSTED.

I MAKE IT MY BUSINESS TO TAKE SURVIVORS UP THERE.

YOU MAKE IT YOUR *BUSINESS?*

WE ALL HAVE TO HELP EACH OTHER OUT IN THESE TROUBLED TIMES, WOULDN'T YOU SAY?

WE'RE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR HELP, BUT WE AREN'T GOING NEAR ANY MILITARY, YOU DIG?

YEAH, THANKS, MAN. YOU'VE BEEN COOL, BUT WE'LL BE OKAY NOW.

WAIT A MINUTE. DO YOU ALWAYS DO WHAT HE *TELLS* YOU?

NOBODY GIVES ORDERS HERE. WE MAKE OUR DECISIONS COLLECTIVELY.

WHAT ARE YOU? COMMIES? I KNOW ABOUT THE COMMUNIST SYSTEM. EVERYONE EQUAL, RIGHT?

BUT THERE'S ALWAYS A CHAIRMAN MAO, A JOE STALIN, AN UNCLE HO.

WELL, I DON'T HAVE TIME TO DEBATE YOUR SHIT, *COMMANDANTE.*

YOU MAY THINK THAT WAS A LITTLE HARSH, BUT YOU'LL THANK ME LATER.

COME OVER HERE, KID.

MOVE!

HE'S COMING WITH ME. THE REST OF YOU FOLLOW IN YOUR GODDAM' HIPPY WAGON.

I'M SAVING YOUR ASSES WHETHER YOU LIKE IT OR NOT.

PLEASE...

IS HE YOUR KID?

WE'RE ALL ONE FAMILY HERE. SHE'S HIS MOTHER. I'M HIS MOTHER.

WELL, THAT'S FAR OUT, *SISTER.*

SO YOU'LL *ALL* WANT TO SEE HIM ARRIVE SAFE, WON'T YOU?

YOU STAY NO MORE THAN TWO HUNDRED YARDS BEHIND ME AND NO CLOSER THAN FIFTY, CAN YOU DIG *THAT?*

THEY'RE FOLLOWING. IT LOOKS LIKE THEY LOVE YOU, KID.

WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

M-MOONGLOW.

SAY *WHAT!?* YOU POOR KID.

YOU KNOW WHAT MOONSHINE IS?

GLOW. IT'S *MOONGLOW.*

MOONSHINE IS ILLICIT WHISKY, BOY. YOUR DUMB HIPPY MOM NAMED YOU AFTER HILLBILLY ROTGUT WHISKY.

OR MAYBE IT WAS A *COLLECTIVE* DECISION?

NAMED BY COMMITTEE...

DON'T FEEL LIKE TALKING? I DON'T BLAME YOU. IT'S BEEN A STRESSFUL DAY FOR ALL OF US.

DON'T WORRY, KID, WE'LL BE SAFE ONCE WE REACH RED ROCK.

RED ROCK MILITARY BASE.

I REALIZE THAT THESE ORDERS WILL BE TOUGH TO CARRY OUT.

AS SOLDIERS IT'S OUR DUTY TO PROTECT THIS COUNTRY AND ITS CITIZENS, BUT WE ARE FACING A UNIQUE SITUATION THAT THREATENS THE VERY EXISTENCE OF THESE UNITED STATES.

THIS HAS NOT BEEN *MY* DECISION. THE ORDER COMES FROM A HIGHER PLACE.

EVERY CIVILIAN ON THIS POST HAS TO BE EXECUTED IN ORDER TO PRESERVE THE INTEGRITY OF THE EXPERIMENTS THAT DOCTOR SELENS HAS BEEN CONDUCTING.

THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT THOSE EXPERIMENTS HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL AND WE ARE CLOSE TO DEVELOPING A FULL ANTIDOTE TO THE ZOMBIE VIRUS.

EVERYTHING THAT HAS HAPPENED HERE IS HIGHLY SECRET AND I KNOW I CAN TRUST YOU TO CARRY OUT YOUR ORDERS WITH HONOR.

THE EXECUTIONS WILL BE HUMANE AND EVERY SOLDIER WILL TAKE PART, INCLUDING *MYSELF.*

THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS.

COLONEL, *STANISLAV VANEK* IS CALLING IN ON THE CB RADIO.

TALK TO ME, VANEK.

CYRUS

US ARMY

COLONEL, I HAVE ME A WHOLE BUS FULL OF CIVILIANS FOR YOU.

TELL SELENS I CAN'T VOUCH FOR THEM BEING DRUG-FREE.

ALL RIGHT. BRING THEM IN.

WILL DO, COLONEL, ONLY I'M NOT ENTIRELY SURE THEY'LL FOLLOW WHEN I REACH THE TURNOFF.

I HAD TO MAKE AN EXAMPLE OF ONE OF THEM, IF YOU GET MY MEANING.

I'LL SEND SOME TROOPS DOWN TO MEET YOU.

HOW DO YOU LIKE THAT, MOONSHINE? WE'RE GOING TO HAVE US A MILITARY ESCORT.

I'M TOLD VANEK IS BRINGING IN MORE CIVILIANS.

WHAT DO YOU INTEND TO DO WITH THEM? KILL THEM ALL?

YOU'VE BEEN MISINFORMED. THE MEN I SENT HAVE ORDERS TO PUT AN END TO VANEK'S ACTIVITIES.

WE CAN'T RISK HAVING HIM SHOOT HIS MOUTH OFF WHEN THIS IS ALL OVER.

I CAN'T SAY I'M SORRY. HE DESERVES WHATEVER HE GETS.

UNLIKE THE REST OF THE CIVILIANS?

I KNOW IT HAS TO BE DONE. I HAVE MORE REASON THAN ANYONE TO MAKE SURE THE PUBLIC NEVER KNOWS THE DETAIL OF WHAT I'VE DONE HERE.

THE DEVIL IS IN THE DETAIL, RIGHT DOCTOR?

TALKING OF DETAILS, THERE IS ONE MORE POSSIBLE SECURITY RISK.

NURSE GUPTA.

I CAN VOUCH FOR NURSE GUPTA. SHE WON'T BE A PROBLEM.

THEN I'LL HAVE HER TAKEN OFF THE LIST.

WHEN WILL IT HAPPEN?

ALL THE CIVILIANS WILL BE EXECUTED TOMORROW.

WHAT DID I DO? LORD KNOWS I TRIED, DIDN'T I WAYNE? I MUST HAVE DONE SOMETHING *TERRIBLE* FOR GOD TO PUNISH ME LIKE THIS.

THIS ISN'T ABOUT *YOU*, MOM. IN CASE YOU DIDN'T NOTICE, EVERYONE IN THIS COUNTRY IS NECK DEEP IN THE SAME SHIT YOU ARE.

YOU'RE RIGHT.

THIS IS A *PUNISHMENT* FOR THE NATION'S GODLESSNESS.

OH FOR CHRIST'S SAKE!

YOU'D DO BETTER TO ASK JESUS FOR HIS *HELP* THAN TO TAKE HIS NAME IN VAIN.

NO ONE IS TOO STEEPED IN SIN FOR JESUS TO TURN HIS FACE AWAY.

I'M SORRY ABOUT YOUR SISTER.

HAS THE LORD ABANDONED US OR IS HE GOING TO SAVE US? LET ME KNOW WHEN YOU'VE MADE UP YOUR MIND.

THEY'RE GOING TO TAKE ALL OF US. ONE AT A TIME.

I ABSOLUTELY AGREE WITH YOU. WE ARE ALL GOING TO DIE.

THE QUESTION IS, HOW DO YOU WANT TO GO?

FIGHTING LIKE A MANIAC-- NO QUESTION.

UM, LOOK. I HAVE AN IDEA. IT'S NOT GREAT AS IDEAS GO BUT--

--IF THERE EVER WAS A TIME FOR DESPERATE MEASURES.

WHAT'S THE IDEA?

WELL, WITH YOUR PERMISSION, I'D LIKE TO START BY KICKING THE CRAP OUT OF YOUR FATHER.

PERMISSION GRANTED.

SOMETHING'S GOING ON IN THE CELL BLOCK.

IT LOOKS LIKE THAT GUY IS ATTACKING THE SENATOR AGAIN.

SORRY 'BOUT THIS SENATOR, BUT IT HAS TO LOOK CONVINCING.

BREAK IT UP!

WE SHOULD LET THEM KILL EACH OTHER. SAVE US THE TROUBLE.

ARE YOU READY?

THIS ISN'T GOING TO WORK IF THEY DON'T COME IN HERE.

OPEN IT UP.

WHAT THE FUCK--? YOU CAME IN WITH THESE PEOPLE, DIDN'T YOU?

NOW I'M LEAVING WITH THEM.

UNLOCK THE DOOR OR I *WILL* SHOOT YOU.

DON'T KID YOURSELF, YOU'RE BEING A HERO...

YOU'RE A *TRAITOR!*

HOLD ONTO HIM. I'LL GET THAT DOOR OPEN.

THANKS, MAN.

DON'T THANK ME YET. WE'RE STARRING ON CANDID CAMERA. AND THAT MEANS...

"...WE'RE FUCKED."

ROUTE TWENTY-ONE. THE RED ROCK TURNOFF.

WHAT THE HELL IS HAPPENING?

EVERYONE OFF THE BUS.

LEAVE ALL YOUR WEAPONS HERE. YOU'RE IN SAFE HANDS NOW, PEOPLE.

HEY MAN, YOU NEED TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THAT GUY. HE SHOT ONE OF OUR PEOPLE.

NOW WHY WOULD HE DO THAT?

NO REASON. SHOT HIM DOWN LIKE A DOG.

YOU CAN TRUST MY WORD, MAN. I'M EX-MARINE CORPS.

OH YEAH? ARE YOU HANDY WITH A GUN?

I'M GOOD WITH GUNS, KNIVES, FISTS. YOU NAME IT.

WE SHOULD SHOOT THIS ONE FIRST.

SHOOT THEM?

WHAT THE HELL IS THIS? SELENS NEEDS THEM ALIVE.

NOT ANY MORE, HE DOESN'T.

PUT DOWN THE WEAPONS AND GO JOIN THEM.

WHATEVER THIS GUY IS TO YOU, WE'VE NOTHING TO DO WITH HIM.

THERE ARE CHILDREN HERE.

I'M SORRY MA'AM. WE HAVE OUR ORDERS.

CYRUS DOESN'T KNOW ABOUT THE KIDS. WE SHOULD CHECK WITH HIM.

WE DON'T KNOW WHAT VANEK TOLD THESE PEOPLE. THE ORDERS ARE, NO WITNESSES.

YOU THINK THE COLONEL GIVES A DAMN ABOUT KIDS?

FUCK THIS! I DIDN'T SIGN UP TO KILL *KIDS.*

HEY, YOU GUYS, CUT THE CRAP AND LET'S GET THIS OVER.

HUKK!

OH, CHRIST!

MOTHERFUCKER!

AAAAHHHH

NOW WHAT THE HELL AM I GOING TO DO WITH THESE PEOPLE?

MISTER!

HEY, MOONSHINE, BE CAREFUL WHERE YOU'RE POINTING THAT THING.

MY NAME ISN'T *MOONSHINE!*

HOW ABOUT THAT?

CYRUS...

...YOU TWO-FACED BASTARD.

I'M COMING FOR YOU.

TO BE CONTINUED...